

Attorney's Docket: 2002JP302

Serial No.: 10/506,874

Response to Final Rejection mailed 01/24/2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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Claims 1-6 (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) A method of maintaining or promoting the hydrophilicity of a polysilazane-containing coating film, which comprises steps of: preparing an undiluted solution of a hydrophilicity maintaining or promoting agent for a polysilazane-containing coating film, wherein said undiluted solution is an aqueous solution with pH in the range of from 4.5 to 7.0, wherein said solution comprises 5 to 25% by weight of an anionic surfactant, 0.5 to 20% by weight of an amphoteric surfactant, 4 to 6% by weight of a nonionic surfactant and, optionally, an antiseptic; diluting the undiluted solution with water; and applying the dilute solution onto a polysilazane-containing coating film.

Claims 8-14 (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of maintaining or promoting the hydrophilicity of a polysilazane-containing coating film according to claim 7, wherein the anionic surfactant is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of sec-alkane sulfonate, C₈₋₁₈ alkyl sulfate, polyoxyethylene C₈₋₁₈ alkyl sulfate having an average of 1 to 4 ethylene oxide added moles, α -olefin sulfonate having an alkyl group of from 10 to 18 carbon atoms, and C₈₋₁₈ alkyl benzene sulfonate; the amphoteric surfactant is at least one kind

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selected from the group consisting of coconut oil fatty acid amide propyl betaine, C₈₋₁₈ alkyl dimethyl acetic acid betaine, and an C₈₋₁₈ alkyl dimethyl amine oxide; the nonionic surfactant is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene undecyl alcohol having an average of 3 to 12 ethylene oxide added moles, polyoxyethylene alkyl ether having an average of 3 to 12 ethylene oxide added moles, and polyoxyethylene nonyl phenyl ether having an average of 3 to 12 ethylene oxide added moles; and the antiseptic is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of benzoate, an isothiazoline based antiseptic, a thiazoline based antiseptic and a triazine based antiseptic.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of maintaining or promoting the hydrophilicity of a polysilazane-containing coating film according to claim 7, wherein the dilute solution is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution with water to from 3 to 15 times.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of maintaining or promoting the hydrophilicity of a polysilazane-containing coating film according to claim 7, wherein the dilute solution is obtained by diluting the undiluted solution with water to from 30 to 70 times.